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DEPARTMENT FOR IO/UNP (SUN), EUR (ELDRIDGE), AND EUR/CE
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TAGS: [PREL](#) [UNGA](#) [HU](#)
SUBJECT: HUNGARIAN COMMENTS ON UNGA 64 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

REF: SECSTATE 90254

¶1. In a September 2 meeting with PolOff to discuss reftel, the MFA's UN desk officer, Bernadett Kollar, expressed appreciation for the information covering USG priorities for the upcoming UNGA session. Lamenting the shortfall in MFA staffing that impacts preparation of a similarly detailed agenda package, Kollar, never-the-less, provided general comments concerning the UN budget process, UN reform efforts, First and Third Committee plans related to human rights, and the Biological and Toxic Weapons Convention (BTWC).

¶2. Referring to the budget process, Kollar commented that Hungary's contribution, based on the "scale of assessment" calculated earlier Gross National Income (GNI) figures, doubled in 2007. She said that Hungary will address the assessment calculations due to Hungary's current financial situation and subsequent decreased GNI. Kollar added that the EU States will collectively raise the "scale of assessment" issue, as currently the EU States' assessment approaches 40 percent of the UN total, while their GNI, as a percentage of the world economy, is only 29 percent. Kollar also commented that Hungary supports USG efforts to address effective, transparent, and accountable management issues within the UN.

¶3. Turning to human rights issues, Kollar said that Hungary, as a new member of the Human Rights Council, will pay more attention to human rights issues evolving in the Third Committee, with a particular focus on human rights in Iran, for which Canada has the lead. Kollar also referenced a First Committee resolution related to the BTWC, noting that Hungary has already coordinated technical adjustments to the resolution with the U.S. delegation in Geneva, adding that Hungary "counts on U.S. support" for the resolution.
LEVINE